CLAIM LISTING

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of Claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A composition comprising:

(a) a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals; and

(b) a lipase inhibitor;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 4.5 : 1.

2. (Original) The composition according to Claim 1 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 5 : 1.

3. (Original) The composition according to Claim 2 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, salts of fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

4. (Original) The composition according to Claim 3 wherein when the composition comprises a fatty acid, the composition further comprises a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt.

5. (Original) The composition according to Claim 3 wherein the lipase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; tetrahydrolipstatins; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The composition according to Claim 5 wherein the lipase inhibitor is a compound selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrolipstatin, lipstatin, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) The composition according to Claim 6 comprising at least about 0.001% of the lipase inhibitor and at least about 0.1% of the stiffening agent, all by weight of the composition.

8. (Original) The composition according to Claim 7 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 6 : 1.

9. (Original) The composition according to Claim 8 comprising at least about 0.2% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

10. (Original) The composition according to Claim 9 comprising at least about 0.8% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

11. (Original) The composition according to Claim 10 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

12. (Original) The composition according to Claim 10 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearate, behenic acid, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Original) A composition comprising:

(a) a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, radicals alkenyl having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein when the stiffening agent is R-COOH, the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, pentadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, margaric acid, elaidic acid, eleostearic acid, licanic acid, arachidic acid, eicosenoic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, lignoceric acid, and mixtures thereof; and

(b) a lipase inhibitor;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 1 : 1.

14. (Original) The composition according to Claim 13 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 2 : 1.

15. (Original) The composition according to Claim 14 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of salts of fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

16. (Original) The composition according to Claim 15 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 3 : 1.

17. (Original) The composition according to Claim 16 wherein the lipase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 2-amino-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-oxy-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; 2-thio-4H-3,1-benzoxazin-4-ones; tetrahydrolipstatins; chiral alkylphosphonates; chiral isomers of beta-lactone; and mixtures thereof.

18. (Original) The composition according to Claim 17 wherein the lipase inhibitor is a compound selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrolipstatin, lipstatin, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Original) The composition according to Claim 17 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 4 : 1.

20. (Original) The composition according to Claim 17 comprising at least about 0.001% of the lipase inhibitor and at least about 0.1% of the stiffening agent, all by weight of the composition.

21. (Original) The composition according to Claim 20 comprising at least about 0.2% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

22. (Original) The composition according to Claim 21 comprising at least about 0.8% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

23. (Original) The composition according to Claim 22 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

24. (Original) The composition according to Claim 22 wherein the stiffening agent is calcium stearate.

25. (Original) A composition suitable for administration to an animal for the purpose of stiffening one or more lipophilic substances present in the gastrointestinal tract of the animal, wherein the composition comprises a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from

the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein the composition comprises at least about 5% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

26. (Original) The composition according to Claim 25 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, salts of fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

27. (Original) The composition according to Claim 26 comprising from about 5% to about 95% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

28. (Original) The composition according to Claim 27 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearate, behenic acid, and mixtures thereof.

29. (Original) The composition according to Claim 27 further comprising a lipase inhibitor.

30. (Original) The composition according to Claim 29 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

31. (Original) A composition suitable for administration to an animal for the purpose of stiffening one or more lipophilic substances present in the gastrointestinal tract of the animal, wherein the composition comprises a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein when the stiffening agent is R-COOH, the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, pentadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, margaric acid, elaidic acid, eleostearic acid, licanic acid, arachidic acid, eicosenoic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, lignoceric acid, and mixtures thereof.

32. (Original) The composition according to Claim 31 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of salts of fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

33. (Original) The composition according to Claim 32 comprising from about 0.1% to about 99% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

34. (Original) The composition according to Claim 33 wherein the stiffening agent is calcium stearate.

35. (Original) The composition according to Claim 33 further comprising a lipase inhibitor.

36. (Original) The composition according to Claim 35 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

37. (Withdrawn) A method of increasing the viscosity of one or more lipophilic substances present in the gastrointestinal tract of an animal comprising administering a composition comprising a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent to the animal, wherein the stiffening agent has a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater and is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein the composition comprises at least about 5% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

38. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 37 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, salts of fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

39. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 38 wherein the composition comprises from about 5% to about 95% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

40. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 39 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearate, behenic acid, and mixtures thereof.

41. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 39 wherein the composition further comprises a lipase inhibitor.

42. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 41 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

43. (Withdrawn) A method of increasing the viscosity of one or more lipophilic substances present in the gastrointestinal tract of an animal comprising administering a composition comprising a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent to the animal, wherein the stiffening agent has a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater and is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein when the stiffening agent is R-COOH, the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, pentadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, margaric acid, elaidic acid, eleostearic acid, licanic acid, arachidic acid, eicosenoic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, lignoceric acid, and mixtures thereof.

44. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 43 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of salts of fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

45. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 44 wherein the composition comprises from about 0.1% to about 99% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

46. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 45 wherein the stiffening agent is calcium stearate.

47. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 45 wherein the composition further comprises a lipase inhibitor.

48. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 47 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

49. (Withdrawn) A method selected from the group consisting of treating gastrointestinal distress, treating fecal urgency, treating obesity, treating hyperlipidemia, treating diarrhea, inhibiting anal leakage, reducing levels of toxic substances, reducing blood cholesterol levels, inducing satiety, effecting weight loss, effecting weight control, treating Type II Diabetes, delaying onset of Type II Diabetes, preventing Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof, the method comprising administering a composition comprising:

(a) a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to

about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a safe and effective amount of a lipase inhibitor;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 4.5 : 1.

50. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 49 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, salts of fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

51. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 50 wherein the composition comprises at least about 0.1% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

52. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 50 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearate, behenic acid, and mixtures thereof.

53. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 52 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

54. (Withdrawn) A method selected from the group consisting of treating gastrointestinal distress, treating fecal urgency, treating obesity, treating hyperlipidemia, treating diarrhea, inhibiting anal leakage, reducing levels of toxic substances, reducing blood cholesterol levels, inducing satiety, effecting weight loss, effecting weight control, treating Type II Diabetes, delaying onset of Type II Diabetes, preventing Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof, the method comprising administering a composition comprising:

(a) a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the

group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein when the stiffening agent is R-COOH, the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, pentadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, margaric acid, elaidic acid, eleostearic acid, licanic acid, arachidic acid, eicosenoic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, lignoceric acid, and mixtures thereof; and

(b) a safe and effective amount of a lipase inhibitor;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 1 : 1.

55. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 54 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of salts of fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

56. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 55 wherein the composition comprises at least about 0.1% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the composition.

57. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 56 wherein the stiffening agent is calcium stearate.

58. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 57 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

59. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

(a) a first composition comprising a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a second composition comprising a lipase inhibitor.

60. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 30 wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor is at least about 1 : 1.

61. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 60 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, salts of fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

62. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 61 wherein the first composition comprises at least about 0.1% of the stiffening agent, by weight of the first composition.

63. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 62 wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of calcium stearate, behenic acid, and mixtures thereof.

64. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 62 wherein the lipase inhibitor is tetrahydrolipstatin.

65. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

(a) a composition comprising a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a lipase inhibitor; and

(c) information associated with the composition that use of the composition will provide one or more benefits selected from the group consisting of treatment of gastrointestinal distress, treatment of fecal urgency, treatment of obesity, weight loss, weight control, treatment of hyperlipidemia, treatment of diarrhea, inhibition of anal leakage, reduction of levels of toxic substances, treatment of Type II Diabetes, delay of onset of Type II Diabetes, prevention of Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 4.5 : 1.

66. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 65 wherein the composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

67. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 65 comprising a second composition, wherein the second composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

68. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising:

(a) a composition comprising a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

wherein when the stiffening agent is R-COOH, the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, pentadecanoic acid, palmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, margaric acid, elaidic acid, eleostearic acid, licanic acid, arachidic acid, eicosenoic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, lignoceric acid, and mixtures thereof;

(b) a lipase inhibitor; and

(c) information associated with the composition that use of the composition will provide one or more benefits selected from the group consisting of treatment of gastrointestinal distress, treatment of fecal urgency, treatment of obesity, weight loss, weight control, treatment of hyperlipidemia, treatment of

diarrhea, inhibition of anal leakage, reduction of levels of toxic substances, treatment of Type II Diabetes, delay of onset of Type II Diabetes, prevention of Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 1 : 1.

69. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 68 wherein the composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

70. (Withdrawn) The kit according to Claim 68 comprising a second composition, wherein the second composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

71. A composition comprising:

(a) a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) an non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam; and

(c) a lipase inhibitor.

72. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) A method selected from the group consisting of treating gastrointestinal distress, treating fecal urgency, treating obesity, treating hyperlipidemia, treating diarrhea, inhibiting anal leakage, reducing levels of toxic substances, reducing blood cholesterol levels, inducing satiety, effecting weight loss, effecting weight control, treating Type II Diabetes, delaying onset of Type II Diabetes, preventing Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof, the method comprising administering a composition comprising:

(a) a safe and effective amount of a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a safe and effective amount of a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam; and

(c) a safe and effective amount of a lipase inhibitor.

73. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) A kit comprising:

(a) a composition comprising a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater which is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to

about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam;

(c) a lipase inhibitor; and

(d) information associated with the composition that use of the composition will provide one or more benefits selected from the group consisting of treatment of gastrointestinal distress, treatment of fecal urgency, treatment of obesity, weight loss, weight control, treatment of hyperlipidemia, treatment of diarrhea, inhibition of anal leakage, reduction of levels of toxic substances, treatment of Type II Diabetes, delay of onset of Type II Diabetes, prevention of Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof.

74. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) The kit according to Claim 74 wherein the composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

75. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) The kit according to Claim 74 wherein the composition comprises the non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam.

76. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) The kit according to Claim 74 comprising a second composition, wherein the second composition comprises the lipase inhibitor.

77. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) The kit according to Claim 74 comprising a second composition, wherein the second composition comprises the non-digestible, non-absorbable, open-celled polymeric foam.

78. (Withdrawn/Previously Amended) A kit comprising:

(a) a composition comprising a stiffening agent having a complete melting point of about 33 °C or greater, wherein the stiffening agent is selected from the group consisting of R-COOR', R-OR', R-CONR'R", R-NR'R", salts thereof, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

(i) R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, alkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, heteroalkenyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms, and heteroalkynyl radicals having from about 14 to about 24 carbon atoms; and

(ii) R' and R" are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl radicals, alkenyl radicals, alkynyl radicals, heteroalkyl radicals, heteroalkenyl radicals, and heteroalkynyl radicals;

(b) a second composition comprising a lipase inhibitor; and

(c) information associated with the composition that use of the composition will provide one or more benefits selected from the group consisting of treatment of gastrointestinal distress, treatment of fecal urgency, treatment of obesity, weight loss, weight control, treatment of hyperlipidemia, treatment of diarrhea, inhibition of anal leakage, reduction of levels of toxic substances, treatment of Type II Diabetes, delay of onset of Type II Diabetes, prevention of Type II Diabetes, and combinations thereof;

wherein the ratio of the stiffening agent to the lipase inhibitor, by weight, is at least about 1 : 1.